Proposal to set up Doordarshan production unit at Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh

2613. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for establishing Doordarshan Production Unit at Cuddapah in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Commissioning of Doordarshan Kendra at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh

2614. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of Doordarshan Kendra of Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the civil works and installation of machinery has been completed; and

(c) if so, by when the Kendra is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) While a high power TV transmitter is already in operation at Itanagar, the construction of the building for TV studio centre has been completed. Departmental works/including installation of equipment are in progress. The Centre is expected to be ready for commissioning during the later half of 1993-94.

Coverage of population control problem by the Press

2615' SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of population control in the country is receiving scant attention in the national press;

(b) whether Government have enquired into the reasons therefor; if so, te details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure a major coverage of this problem by the press?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Small, medium and big newspapers in country

2616. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of small, medium and big newspapers in country, Statewise in English and regional languages, upto 30th August, 1992 as per modified circulation criteria;

(b) whether Government are considering suitable changes in its policy for release of Government advertisements and allocation of newsprint during the current year; and

(c) what is the policy of Government to curb the monopolistic hold of big newspapers in country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P.

SINGH DEO): (a) The required information upto the period indicated is not readily available.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government's policy towars all categories of newspapers is consistent with its stand for freedom of the Press as enshrined in the Constitution.

रेडियो कश्मीर पर उर्दू कमेंट्री

2617. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेडियो कश्मीर से उर्दू भाषा के कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कितने लोग कमेंट्री प्रसारित करते हैं; और

(ख) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन व्यक्तियों ने कमेंट्री की है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के.पी. सिंह देव) : (क) और (ख) रेडियो कश्मीर के पास लगभग 30 ख्यातिप्राप्त पत्रकारों तथा लेखकों का एक पैनल है, जो रेडियो कश्मीर से कामेंटरियां प्रसारित करने में अपना योगदान देते हैं। कामेंटरी लेखकों के नामों को बताना जनहित में नहीं होगा।

News-Readers on Television

2618. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Hindi and English T.V. News-readers have been appointed on regular basis since the introduction of T.V. News Service;

(b) if so, what are the names of these News-readers with scale of pay given to them and nature of their duties language-wise including facilities provided to them;

(c) whether certain employees of schools and other organisations are also reading Hindi and Englsh T.V. News;

(d) if so, names of such readers with their places of working and emoluments being paid to them for such reading;

(e) whether reading of T.V. News is done at News-time i.e. live-telecast or pre-recorded telecast;

(f) whether some scientific technique for reading of T.V. News is being adopted which keeps the eyes of News-reader towards viewers; and

(g) if so, the details hereof with total time being spent on the final News-reading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The following persons have been appointed by Doordarshan as news readers in the pay scale of Rs. 2000-3500 on a regular basis:

(i) Ms. Salma Sultan (Hindi)

(ii) Shri N. C. Srivastava (Hindi)

(iii) Ms. Minu Talwar (English)

They are entitled to all the facilities available to Government servants.

(c) and (d) The Doordarshan Kendras orginating news bulletins also engage the services of casual news readers on payment of fees ranging from Rs. 250-750 per assignment. The details of the names of these persons and their occupation is not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(e) Except for Parliament news/ Sansad Samachar all other news bulletins are always telecast live.